

Message Text

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CIEP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01

SP-02 OMB-01 AF-06 /133 W

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R 101709Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0658

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, GW

SUBJECT: MINISTER BAHR'S STATEMENT ON FRG FOREIGN
AID POLICY

REF: BONN 9180

1. FOLLOWING A FULL-DAY CABINET MEETING ON JUNE 9,
1975, AID MINISTER BAHR MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT
ON FUTURE FRG FOREIGN AID POLICY DURING A PRESS
CONFERENCE ON JUNE 10.

2. BEGIN STATEMENT

I. IN A SPECIAL MEETING YESTERDAY, THE FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT DISCUSSED MATTERS OF DEVELOPMENT POLICY.

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THE GOVERNMENT THUS UNDERLINES THE IMPORTANCE OF

DEVELOPMENT POLICY AS A SIGNIFICANT FACTOR IN ITS PEACE POLICY; IN THE FUTURE, DEVELOPMENT POLICY WILL INCREASE IN IMPORTANCE WITHIN THE NORTH-SOUTH RELATIONSHIP.

II. IN ITS INVENTORY OF THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, THE CABINET AGREED UNANIMOUSLY ON THE FOLLOWING.

A. THE PRINCIPLE OF "CONTINUITY AND CONCENTRATION" SET UP BY FEDERAL CHANCELLOR HELMUT SCHMIDT IN HIS POLICY DECLARATION OF 17 MAY, 1974 IS ALSO VALID FOR THE FIELD OF DEVELOPMENT POLICY.

B. THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY ADVOCATES A PARTNERSHIP RELATION WITH THE COUNTRIES OF THE THIRD WORLD. IN DOING SO, IT CONTINUES TO BASE ITS POLICY ON THE "DEVELOPMENT POLICY CONCEPT", THE SECOND EXTRAPOLATION OF WHICH WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE GERMAN BUNDESTAG NEXT AUTUMN. PARTNERSHIP MEANS THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT -- APART FROM THE STILL EXISTING HUMANITARIAN NEEDS -- STRIVES FOR A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE COUNTRIES OF THE THIRD WORLD IN WHICH BOTH SIDES HAVE EQUAL RIGHTS TO ATTEND TO THEIR RESPECTIVE INTERESTS.

C. THE CABINET DECIDED UPON "25 THESES FOR THE POLICY OF COOPERATION WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES". THEY STATE THE DEVELOPMENT POLICY MEASURES WHICH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TOOK TO REACT TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE WORLD SINCE AUTUMN 1973 (OIL PRICE EXPLOSION). THEY INCLUDE ESPECIALLY THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

- CONCENTRATION OF BILATERAL COOPERATION ON THE GROUP OF THE 33 POOREST COUNTRIES (MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED COUNTRIES -- MSAC). FOR THESE COUNTRIES, ABOUT 40 PERCENT OF OUR FINANCIAL AID AND OUR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, RESPECTIVELY

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ARE EARMARKED IN OUR GENERAL PLANNING FOR 1975;

- NEW TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR FINANCIAL AID: FROM 1976 ONWARDS, MORE ADVANCED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WILL BE GIVEN LESS FAVORABLE CONDITIONS (4.5 PERCENT INTEREST, 20 YEARS MATURITY, 5 GRACE YEARS); ON THE OTHER HAND, THE GROUP OF COUNTRIES RECEIVING THE MOST FAVORABLE TERMS WILL BE

ENLARGED TO INCLUDE THE MSA-COUNTRIES (0.75 PERCENT INTEREST, 50 YEARS MATURITY, 10 GRACE YEARS); THE OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WILL BE GIVEN STANDARD CONDITIONS AS BEFORE (2 PERCENT INTEREST, 30 YEARS MATURITY, 10 GRACE YEARS);

- INCREASED PROMOTION OF RURAL/AGRICULTURAL

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SECTORS IN THE THIRD WORLD; ALMOST EVERY THIRD MARK OUT OF OUR DEVELOPMENT POLICY BUDGET WILL THIS YEAR BE UTILIZED FOR THIS SECTOR;

- NEW FORMS OF COOPERATION; THESE WOULD INCLUDE,

AMONG OTHER THINGS, "TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
AGAINST PAYMENT" AND TRILATERAL COOPERATION;

- THE SHARE OF OUR MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE WILL
REMAIN AT APPROXIMATELY 30 PERCENT; HERE, THE
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY RANKS AMONGST THE
LEADERS IN INTERNATIONAL COMPARISON.

D. AN ANALYSIS OF THE PRESENT WORLD SITUATION
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MAKES IT QUITE CLEAR: DEVELOPMENT POLICY BEGINS
WHERE DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE ENDS. TODAY,
DEVELOPMENT POLICY HAS BECOME TO AN EVER-INCREASING
EXTENT A MEANS TO EASE INTERNATIONAL TENSION.
DEVELOPMENT POLICY IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE
FOREIGN RELATIONS OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF
GERMANY. IT SEEMS THAT THERE ARE NO LONGER ANY
DIFFERENCES OF OPINION ON THIS AMONG THE VARIOUS
PARTIES IN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC.

E. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WILL PLAY AN INCREASINGLY
ACTIVE ROLE IN ORDER TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS REDUCING
DIFFERENCES OF OPINION BETWEEN INDUSTRIAL AND
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. WE ADVOCATE A RESUMPTION OF
THE PARIS PREPARATORY CONFERENCE; FOR THIS PURPOSE,
WE WILL GET INTO CONTACT WITH OTHER INTERESTED
NATIONS. END STATEMENT

3. A TRANSLATION OF THE 25 THESES REFERRED TO IN THE
ABOVE STATEMENT TOGETHER WITH SOME ADDITIONAL REMARKS
MADE BY BAHR DURING THE PRESS CONFERENCE WILL BE
TRANSMITTED BY AIRGRAM.
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